

**Solutions
Recovery, Inc.**

Everyone has a Direct Connection to Addiction

David M. Marlon
President



Legislative Committee on Health Care

EXHIBIT F – HEALTH CARE
Document consists of 24 pages.
Entire exhibit provided.
Meeting Date: 03-13-12



IS PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION A PROBLEM?

Statistics

- In the U.S., more than 15 million people, or 6%, abuse prescription drugs
- This exceeds the combined number of people addicted to cocaine, hallucinogens, inhalants, and heroin
- More than 2 million of those addicted are teenagers.

Statistics

- In 2010 there were 2.4 million persons 12 years or older who used drugs non-medically for the first time. This is approximately 6,600 people per day.*
- In 2010 the number of *new* nonmedical users of OxyContin, the most addictive prescription pill, was 598,000. Compare to the 105,000 new Methamphetamine users

*Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

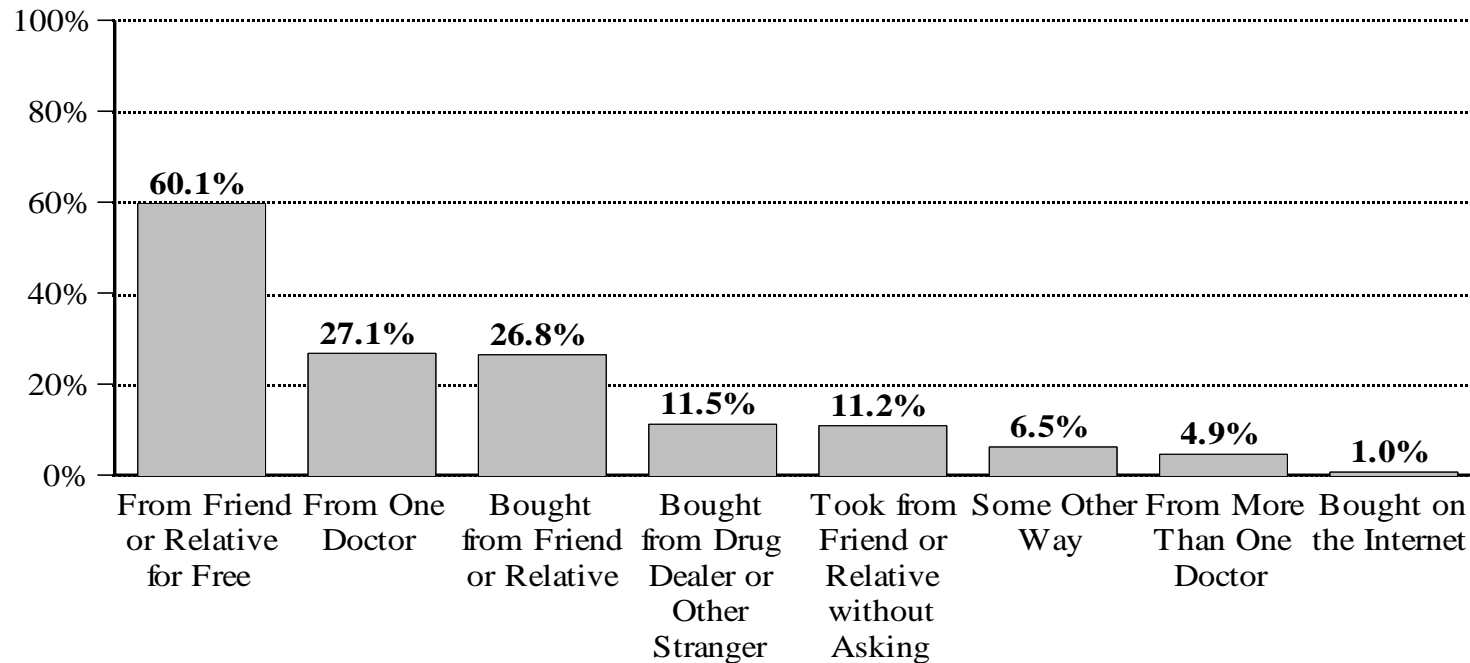
Statistics

- Abuse of painkillers in the U.S. increased 400% between 1998 and 2008*
- Among U.S. residents over age 11, abuse of prescription meds increased from 2.2% in 1998 to 9.8% in 2008*

*Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

Statistics

Method of Obtaining Prescription Pain Relievers Reported by Past Month Nonmedical Users Ages 12 or Older • (2009 & 2010 Combined Annual Averages)



SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, *Results from the 2010 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: Detailed Tables*, 2011. Available online at <http://oas.samhsa.gov/nsduhLatest.htm>.

Nation Wide Epidemic



Prescription Drug Abuse: America's Problem

- It is estimated that at least 75% of all child abuse or neglect involves substance abuse by parents or caregivers (Source: National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare)
- An estimated 12 million people use prescription drugs for non-medical purposes in the United States in 2012, and enough painkillers were prescribed “to medicate every American adult around the clock for a month” (Source: National Institute on Drug Abuse)
- Each day an estimated 2 people die from drug overdose and another 40 are admitted to the emergency room with resulting life-threatening conditions (Source: Prescription Monitoring Program of Excellence at Brandeis University)
- Health insurers alone lose up to \$72.5 billion annually in bogus claims filed by drug-seeking patients. These costs are then passed along to consumers.

Las Vegas 9/30/11

- Dr. Henry Wetselaar and pharmacist David Litwin were indicted for unlawfully distributing the prescription pain killer Oxycodone.
- They were also charged with prescribing larger amounts of Hydrocodone, Xanax, and Soma to people who did not have a medical need for these drugs.

“This problem affects individuals throughout all sectors of our community. No one is immune, and no one is untouched by this growing drug problem.” - Nevada’s U.S. Attorney Daniel Bogden

Oxycodone





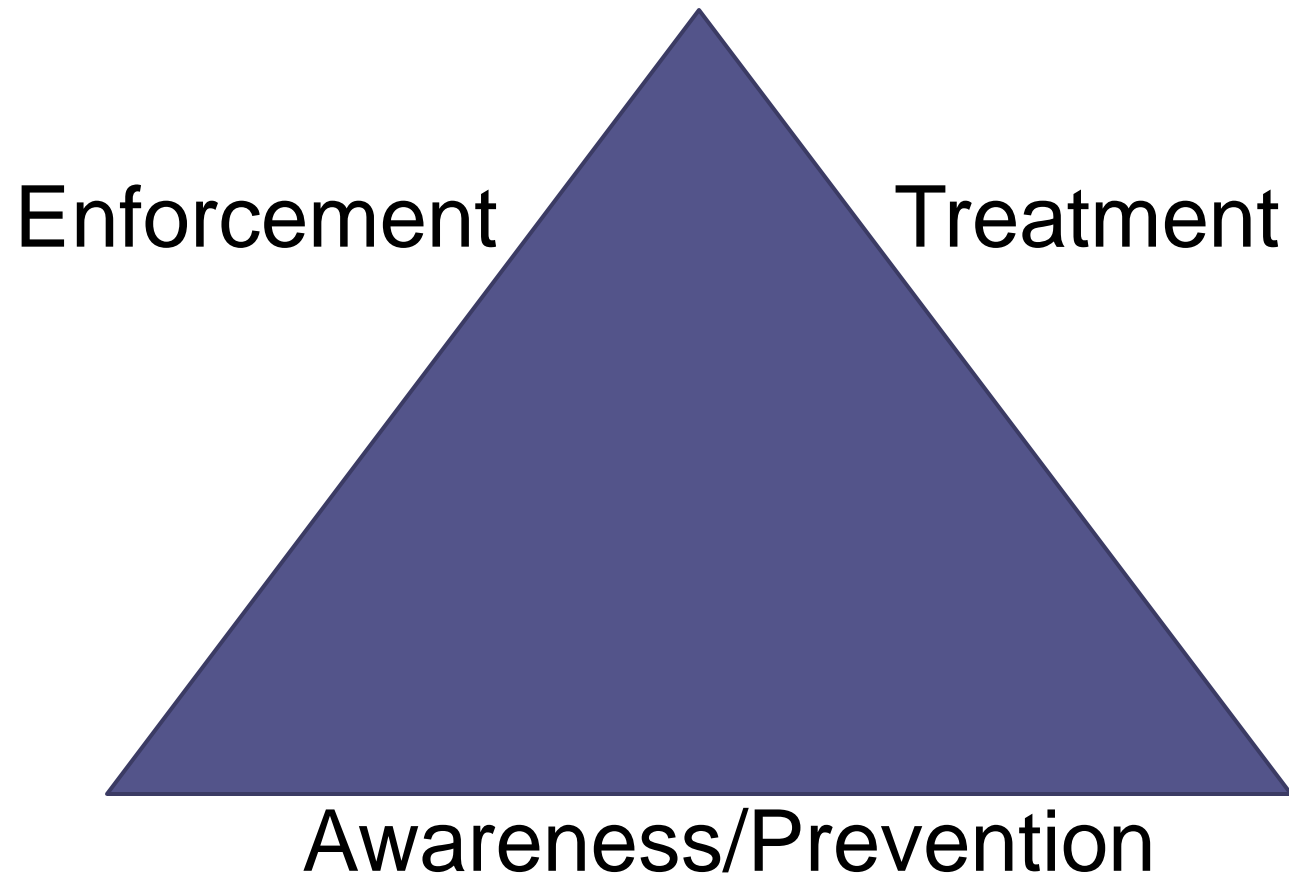
Do You Believe Addiction is a Disease?

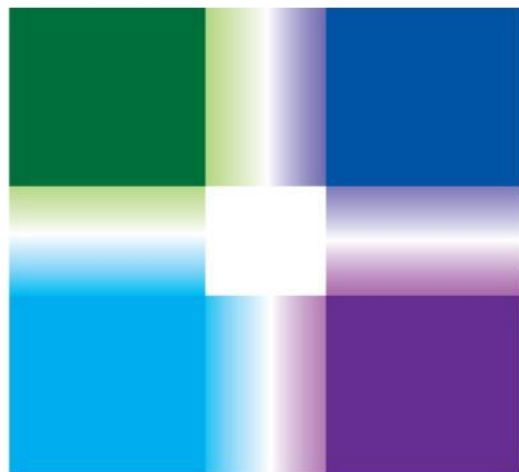
In 1956 the AMA Declared Alcoholism a Disease

For the American Medical Association (AMA) to classify an illness or injury as a disease it must meet 5 criteria:

- Has to be a primary condition
- Has to be a chronic condition
- Has to be progressive
- Has to be symptomatic
- Has to be fatal

The Solution





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TREATMENT

Treatment

- Treatment of addiction is as successful as treatment of other chronic diseases such as diabetes, hypertension, asthma and heart diseases.
- Treatment helps people become successfully employed, with gains up to 40% after treatment.
- Addiction treatment is very cost-effective; studies show savings up to \$12 for every \$1 spent on treatment.

Compulsory vs. Voluntary

- In a review of several recent studies, it was found that 75% of cases showed no difference between whether treatment was mandatory or voluntary
(Source: European Addiction Research. 2002 “*Compulsory Substance Abuse Treatment: An Overview of Recent Findings and Issues*” 8:84-93)

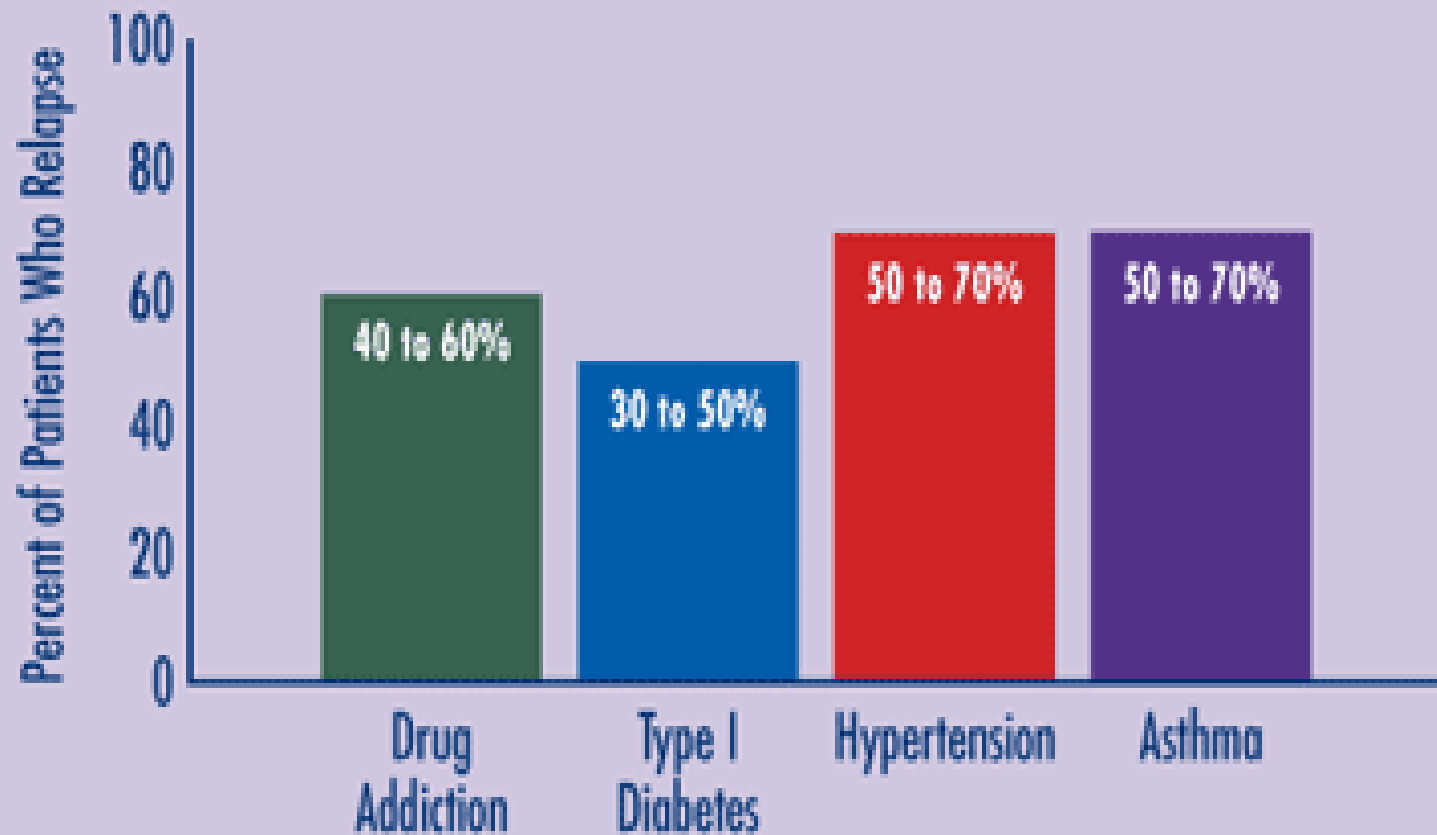
Treatment should work the first time... RIGHT?

A series of horizontal lines in teal and light blue colors, with some lines having a slight 3D effect, spanning the width of the slide.

Relapse

Relapse rates

COMPARISON OF RELAPSE RATES BETWEEN DRUG ADDICTION AND OTHER CHRONIC ILLNESSES



Prescription Drug Monitoring

- Modern technology allows pharmacies to share information about pseudoephedrine purchases, and doctors and hospitals should be able to do the same with prescription drugs.
- Many other states are considering the implementation of such a program (see “New York Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Sparks Debate”)



Synthetic Drugs: Synthetic Marijuana and Bath Salts

Statistics

- Poison Control Centers responded to 3,200 calls related to synthetic drugs in 2010
- In 2011, that number **QUADRUPLED** to more than 13,000 calls
- Sixty percent of those cases were with patients 25 or younger

Source: American Association of Poison Control Centers



Enforcement

Luckily for Nevadans...

- Thanks to the efforts of Senator Joe Hardy and Assemblywoman April Mastroluca, Nevada has become the 34th State to make the sale or possession of most synthetic drugs illegal.
- Because of this legislation, Law Enforcement agencies now have the power to act, reducing the availability of these dangerous substances.

But we must remain vigilant

These synthetic substances are produced in the laboratory, and suppliers will be continually tweaking their formulas.